

17 February 2016

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As 2016 begins, many volunteers are working diligently to organize the World Allergy Organization's (WAO) new Committees for the 2016-2017 term. The various councils and committees of WAO drive the ambitious agenda of the organization and allow for diverse allergists from all over the world to contribute to the structure and success of WAO and the specialty.

The unique structure of WAO allows us to find globally known experts in various fields to participate on our committees. The cutting-edge papers and projects that have been created by our committees in the past have benefitted our fellow colleagues as well as their patients and I am confident the newly formed committees will continue this tradition. It is only with the great and noble contribution of these committee members that this work is possible.

In addition, we have added some new committees for the 2016-2017 term; the new committees that are being established include:

- Allergy in Developing Countries
- Drug Hypersensitivity Reactions
- Rhinitis and Rhinosinusitis
- Skin Allergy

Many of the WAO Committees will be meeting for the first time at the upcoming American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, United States, to discuss their ongoing projects and to set their agendas for the upcoming term.

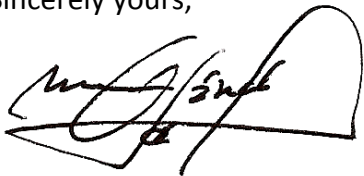
Among our many committees, the WAO International Scientific Conference (WISC) 2016 Scientific Program Committee, has also been hard at work over the past few months to plan and prepare WISC 2016 in conjunction with the Israel Association for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (IAACI) and their mutually collaborating partner, Allergists for Israel (AFI). As this committee completes the Preliminary Program, I am very excited about the invited speakers and the quality of the scientific content! The theme of the conference is: *Outstanding Allergy, Clinical Immunology and Cultural Heritage*.

I hope you are able to join us at WISC 2016 taking place 6-9 December 2016 in Jerusalem, Israel. You can find additional information on the WAO website at: www.worldallergy.org/wisc2016/.

Another event that is quickly approaching is the sixth annual World Allergy Week (4-10 April 2016), on the theme of: *Pollen Allergies – Adapting to a Changing Climate*. World Allergy Week is an opportunity for your member society to spread greater awareness and understanding of allergy topics as well as to promote the exchange of ideas and collaboration in order to address treatment and quality-of-life issues related to the care of patients with pollen allergies. As in the past, WAO will provide resources to its member societies for activities; these materials will be available online at: www.worldallergyweek.org. Many individuals, clinics, and member societies have participated in the past in a variety of ways. Visit the website for ideas. Share your plans for World Allergy Week. Write to info@worldallergy.org. How are you managing pollen allergies in a changing global climate?

Hope to see you all in Jerusalem!

Sincerely yours,



Mario Sánchez Borges
President, World Allergy Organization

Save the date for World Allergy Week: 4-10 April 2016

Keep track of all WAO activities at:

www.worldallergy.org and www.waojournal.org

[@worldallergy](https://twitter.com/worldallergy) on Twitter

[WorldAllergyOrg](https://www.facebook.com/WorldAllergyOrg) on Facebook

[TheWAOChannel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) on YouTube

Join the WISC [LinkedIn group](#) (Click the Join Group button)